towards the Universities and Colleges, as entrusted to its under its Act. In order to decentralize its working, six regional offices of the Commission are located in different parts of the country.

New Central Universities

†3385. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new Central Universities set up during the last three years and the details thereof;

(b) the number of proposals for opening of new universities under consideration of the Government;

(c) whether there is any proposal to open new Central universities in the hilly areas of Derjeeling and Jalpaiguri of West Bengal

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Three Central Universities, namely, University of Allahabad, Manipur University and Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar, have been set up during the last three years. Further, the legislations for setting up of three more Central Universities, namely, Tripura University, Sikkim University and English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad have been enacted by the Parliament recently—these Acts are yet to come into force.

(b) to (e). While this Ministry has received a number of proposals, including setting up of new Central Universities in the hilly areas of Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri of West Bengal, only one proposal for setting up of a Tribal University is, presently, awaiting decision of the Government. It would not be possible to accede to all the requests in view of the limited availability of resources.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.